

REMARKS

The allowance or allowability of claims 2-18, 20-24, 26, 28 and 29 indicated in the Action is acknowledged appreciatively and without invocation of any present Festo decision.

The rejection of claim 19 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, is attended to above. Inasmuch as the attention corresponds with the antecedent of the original claims, no present Festo decision is invoked.

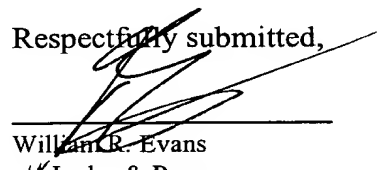
Rejected claim 25 is canceled.

The rejection of claim 27 under 35 USC 102 is incorrect, because claim 27 depends from allowed claim 7 and, therefore, is allowable, too.

Claims 30 and 31 of the Preliminary Amendment of July 5, 2001, have not been considered, but are allowable with their parent claims 7 and 13. A copy of the Preliminary Amendment is attached.

Reconsideration and allowance are, therefore, requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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